

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 22nd, 2017

175 Anniversary of our Diocese

I would like to take this opportunity to “Thank” all three parishes (Rose, Augustine and Matthew) for joining us last Sunday at St. Matthew’s for one of the greatest gatherings ever! The music, the dancing, the youth and the mature, the food, the interaction of people coming together to celebrate one faith, one baptism for the past 175 years...it was wonderful! I have heard so many great and positive remarks from this gathering, such as... “I met so many people that I have not seen in so long...” “This was a great gathering with positive energy...” and “we need to do this again!” (We can! We will!).

On my behalf and yours, I would like to “Thank” Patty Blake for taking on as chair of this beautiful milestone in our diocese. As well, I want to thank the Committee made up of people from each parish: **Jill Robilliard, Trish Sennett, Margie Mazerolle, Iris Thompson, Yvonne Theriault, Gloria Ernst, Georgie Hayward, Keith Doiron, and the Knights of Columbus from all 3 Parishes, Lucille Chamberlain, Jackie Saulnier, and Denise Logan. Erin Mackin, Rob Thompson, Anita LeBlanc, Linda and Gregory Gilbert... To those who did the barbequing, the servers, setting up, coordinating, cleaning up afterwards and our parish photographer-David Day!**

Finally, I want to thank the many who made the extra effort to come from all three parishes. It was your presence that gave life and enriched our celebration.

Fr. David

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Last week, a dear friend of mine, Sr. Mary Beth McCurdy reminded me of a quote from Scripture, Proverbs: “Where there is no vision, the people will perish.” Proverbs 29:11

We live in one of the most beautiful areas of New Brunswick. In the past 175 years our foremothers and fathers, have built 3 Beautiful faith communities along the Saint John River: St. Rose; St. Matthew’s and St. Augustine’s. When we look back through history we can easily see that these people who not only built churches, but prepared countless generations of hearts where the seeds of faith were sown. ‘Woolastok’ is a Malaseet word which means “people of the river.” We, too, are ‘people of the river,’ living along the Saint John River. But as well, there is another river that we are connected to...the river of faith that runs through our hearts. These parishes and their people were the beginning. They had a vision!

St. Rose, built in 1881, was built first on a hill overlooking the beautiful Saint John River. At the other end, St. Augustine’s was built in 1926 and served as a mission of the Cathedral...the priest came up by train to celebrate Mass. Over time and with population growth, these two structures could no long sustain the growing faith. St. Matthew’s was birthed in 1985 from both St. Augustine’s and St. Rose. How appropriate that we had our 175th Anniversary celebration at St. Matthew’s, the “bridge” between St. Rose and St. Augustine.

My dear people, we now stand on the cusp of a new beginning, a new future or as Jeremiah puts it, “a future full of hope...” What does that mean? It is a call to continue the work of our

ancestors in faith. How do we do that? We need go back and look at that same piece of Scripture from Proverbs: “Where there is no vision, the people will perish.” That is our challenge for the next chapter in the lives of our communities: “what are our hopes and dreams for our communities?”

“How do we welcome the youth, young families, grandparents, seniors, or those who may feel unaccepted or excluded back into our communities of faith?”

“What opportunities are out there for us to serve?”

“What is it that we have to offer the faithful?”

In other words, “What is our vision?”

I know our faith is strong and we are gifted...therefore how can we fail? This “Vision,” whatever it may be, will open for us future of Hope. Even the Prophet Isaiah tells us, “The Lord said, I am about to create everything new... a new heaven and a new earth...a new Jerusalem...a new Jerusalem as Joy...I will rejoice in my people.” (Is 43:19ff) That’s our baptismal call...to create a new beginning...everyday in the way we live our faith. Therefore, we should be so joyful that we have the opportunity in this day and time to help build this new Jerusalem. How will we do it? What will it look like? I don’t know. That’s up to you. However, what I do know is that it will require hard work, our cooperation, thinking outside the box and listening to the Holy Spirit. And from banding together, sharing our dreams and our efforts... truly it WILL BRING US NEW LIFE... **“AND A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE!”**

Fr. David

SILENCE...

... If God seems distant or uncommunicative these days, maybe we’re not listening. God doesn’t shout: God’s first language is SILENCE. Maybe in our prayers we are doing too much talking and not enough listening? **Brother Tristram**

Thursday October 26th	12:10 Noon	Raymond Sweet
Saturday October 28th	4:00 p.m.	Fred O’Brien
Sunday, October 29th	9:00 a.m.	Ray Connolly
Sunday October 29th	11:00 a.m.	Bill Taylor

Remembering Our Dead

In the charity of your prayers, please remember: **Gordon Lavigne, Joanne Boudreau, Corina Kaden and Harry O’Neill**

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord.

Sanctuary Lamp in Memory of Gerald Chevarie

If you wish to place a sanctuary lamp in memory of a loved one, please call the Office at 653-6850.

Stewardship for the week ending October 15th, 2017

Envelopes	2674.05
Loose	147.70
Pre-Authorized Debit	448.65
Food Bank	75.00
Total	3345.40

Announcements

PARISH MEETING: Sunday October 22nd at 7:00 PM, at the Church, to discuss possibilities, such as hopes, dreams and visions for our parish community. Bring your ideas! **All are welcome!**

The **K of C Council 8094** will be offering **rides to Doctors' appointments** again this year, for those seniors who find it a financial burden to hire a taxi. For more information call Ed Sullivan @ 672-5286.

The Knights of Columbus Council 8094 will be holding their **Rosary and Holy Hour Program** on Thursday, Oct 26th, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. @ Saint Rose of Lima Church. The Knights schedule this Hour of Prayer on the Fourth Thursday of each month. All Knights, their families and friends, as well as all parishioners are welcome to join us in this hour of prayer.

Halloween Trunk or Treat! Please join the Saint John Catholic community in a fun for all Halloween event on Sunday, October 29, from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Dress up as your favourite Saint or Religious, decorate your car trunk, and come join the tricks and treats! For details and to RSVP please contact Melody (607-5418 or beers.melody@gmail.com).

Knights of Columbus will be hosting a breakfast/brunch on Sunday, Oct 29th at St Matthew's from 10am until 1pm to raise funds for Christmas Baskets; it will be the same as previous breakfasts. It will consist of eggs, sausage, ham, pancakes, beans, toast coffee/tea, juice and milk. Adults \$10, Children \$5, Families \$25.

Please come and enjoy a delicious and filling breakfast and support an important cause

Saturday, October 28: Gentle Path Counselling Halloween Dance and Costume Contest Fundraiser, Saint John Trade & Convention Centre, 8pm-1am. \$35 per person. Dancing, Costume Contest, Door Prizes, Photo Booth, Silent Auction, Free Munchies, and more. Come join the fun and help us fund free counselling services to those who cannot afford them. Tickets available on Eventbrite or by calling 652-7284.

Alzheimer's Café Oct. 29th, 2 PM at St. Mark's United Church. Dexter Dr. Guest: Speaker Elizabeth Flemming, YMCA. Entertainment by the Basement Bluegrass Boys

Meeting for Students and Parents of the 2018 Confirmation Class on Thursday November 9th at 6:30 PM in the Church. If you have questions, please call Marijke at 672-0294.